

Standards Committee T1

Telecommunications  
Industry Forum

Ordering and Billing  
Forum

Network Interconnection  
Interoperability Forum

Industry Numbering  
Committee

Protection Engineers  
Group

Standards Committee 05

Network Reliability  
Steering Committee

Internetwork  
Interoperability Test  
Coordination Committee

Telecommunications  
Fraud Prevention  
Committee

International Forum on  
ANSI-41 Standards  
Technology

Interactive Voice  
Response Forum

TTY Forum

Administrative Council for  
Terminal Attachments

IMSI Oversight Council

Emergency Services  
Interconnection Forum

October 25, 2002

William Maher  
Chief  
Wireline Competition Bureau  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Sunset of the Carrier Liaison Committee

Dear Mr. Maher:

This letter is to notify the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC" or "Commission") that the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions ("ATIS") Carrier Liaison Committee ("CLC" or "Committee") reached agreement on September 19, 2002, to sunset its activities. Given that the CLC was established pursuant to a Commission Order following divestiture, ATIS felt it was appropriate to provide notification of the Committee's sunset following 17 years of success as a central industry body in resolving equal access issues.

The CLC was established in 1985 per an FCC Order ("Order").<sup>1</sup> The Exchange Carrier Standards Association ("ECSA"), the predecessor of ATIS, submitted Comments replying to a Public Notice issued in response to the "Lexitel Petition."<sup>2</sup> The Lexitel Petition requested that the FCC establish and chair an industry forum for resolving certain problems encountered by interexchange carriers seeking to obtain equal access interconnection with the facilities of various local exchange carriers.

Instead of adopting the process outlined by petitioners, the FCC endorsed the ECSA Comments, which provided for the establishment of the CLC. Originally, the CLC was composed of representatives from the industry, as well as the FCC, and served as a governing body for industry forums in

<sup>1</sup> In the Matter of MRS and WATS Market Structure, Phase III, CC Docket No. 78-72 (January 1985).

<sup>2</sup> The petition was filed by Lexitel Corporation ("Lexitel"), and joined by two other companies, Teltec Savings Communications Co. ("Teltec") and Allnet Communications Services, Inc. ("Allnet").

which specific industry problems were resolved on a voluntary basis. The CLC was initially developed to coordinate and structure the activities of three subtending forums, the Network Operations Forum (“NOF”), the Industry Carriers Compatibility Forum (“ICCF”), and the Ordering and Billing Forum (“OBF”).

The CLC did not typically become involved directly with the ongoing routine operations of its subtending forums. Rather, the CLC served as an oversight committee by approving correspondence and liaison relationships external to ATIS, monitoring the subtending forums by receiving summary reports regarding work, and providing an appeals process, among other duties.

Over the years, the CLC continued in its original role as an oversight committee. At this time, the CLC had four subtending forums: the Industry Numbering Committee (“INC”), the Network Interconnection/Interoperability Forum (“NIIF”), the Ordering and Billing Forum (“OBF”), and the Telecommunications Fraud Prevention Committee (“TFPC”).<sup>3</sup>

Over the years, however, the work of the CLC has diminished as the subtending forums gained industry recognition, and matured their processes to address new issues, potential work overlaps and liaison relationships. The CLC, recognizing this transition, performed a thorough review of its responsibilities and determined that all of them were either currently being handled by the subtending forums, or processes could be developed whereby the subtending forums could perform the function. Accordingly, the CLC informed the subtending forums of the few additional tasks or processes they would need to assume and reached agreement to sunset the CLC. As has been the case for the past several years, parties having issues may address the appropriate forum or committee directly.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (202) 434-8847, or via email at [mcampbell@atis.org](mailto:mcampbell@atis.org).

Sincerely,

*Megan L. Campbell*  
General Counsel

cc: Eric Einhorn, Acting Chief, TAPD, WCB (eeinhorn@fcc.gov)  
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<sup>3</sup> For more information on ATIS and its forums, please see [www.atis.org](http://www.atis.org).